

Practitioner's Docket No. MPI1997-035CP3**STATUS OF THE CLAIMS:**

Kindly amend claims 8, 9, 17, and 47 as follows:

1. cancelled
2. cancelled
- 3.(amended) The isolated polypeptide of claim 8, which is a mammalian polypeptide.
4. The isolated polypeptide of claim 3, wherein the polypeptide is a human polypeptide.
5. (amended) An isolated polypeptide encoded by the nucleic acid having ATCC Designation No. 209510.
6. (amended) An isolated polypeptide encoded by a nucleic acid comprising the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:1.
7. (amended) An isolated polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:2.
8. (currently amended) An isolated polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence which is at least about 90% identical to the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:2.
9. (currently amended) The isolated polypeptide of claim 8, which has a at least one bioactivity of an ACE-2 polypeptide; wherein the bioactivity is selected from the group consisting of:
 - (a) binding to a target peptide;
 - (b) catalyzing hydrolysis of a target peptide; and
 - (c) interacting with a metal ion selected from Zn^{2+} , Co^{2+} , and Mn^{2+} .
10. The isolated polypeptide of claim 9, which binds a target peptide.
11. The isolated polypeptide of claim 10, which binds angiotensin I.
12. The isolated polypeptide of claim 11, which hydrolyzes angiotensin I into angiotensin (1-9).

Practitioner's Docket N . MPI1997-035CP3

13. The isolated polypeptide of claim 10, which binds kinetensin.
15. The isolated polypeptide of claim 13, which hydrolyzes kinetensin into kinetensin (1-8).
16. The isolated polypeptide of claim 8, which is encoded by a nucleic acid which hybridizes to a nucleic acid having the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:1 or complement thereof.
17. (currently amended) An isolated polypeptide comprising at least 50 consecutive amino acid residues of SEQ ID NO:2 and which has at least one bioactivity of an ACE-2 polypeptide; wherein the bioactivity is selected from the group consisting of:
- (a) binding to a target peptide;
- (b) catalyzing hydrolysis of a target peptide; and
- (c) interacting with a metal ion selected from Zn^{2+} , Co^{2+} , and Mn^{2+} .
- 18-43 cancelled
44. cancelled
45. An isolated polypeptide consisting of the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:2.
46. cancelled
- 47.(currently twice amended) ~~The An~~ isolated polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence which is at least 90 % identical to the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:2, wherein said polypeptide has at least one bioactivity of an ACE-2 polypeptide; wherein the bioactivity is selected from the group consisting of:
- (a) binding to a target peptide;
- (b) catalyzing hydrolysis of a target peptide; and
- (c) interacting with a metal ion selected from Zn^{2+} , Co^{2+} , and Mn^{2+} .
48. cancelled
49. The isolated polypeptide of claim 47, which binds a target peptide.

Practitioner's Docket No. MPI1997-035CP3

50. The isolated polypeptide of claim 49, which binds angiotensin I.
51. The isolated polypeptide of claim 50, which hydrolyzes angiotensin I into angiotensin (1-9).
52. The isolated polypeptide of claim 49, which binds kinetensin.
53. The isolated polypeptide of claim 52, which hydrolyzes kinetensin into kinetensin (1-8).
54. The isolated polypeptide of claim 17, which binds a target peptide.
55. The isolated polypeptide of claim 54, which binds angiotensin I.
56. The isolated polypeptide of claim 55, which hydrolyzes angiotensin I into angiotensin (1-9).
57. The isolated polypeptide of claim 54, which binds kinetensin.
58. The isolated polypeptide of claim 57, which hydrolyzes kinetensin into kinetensin (1-8).